

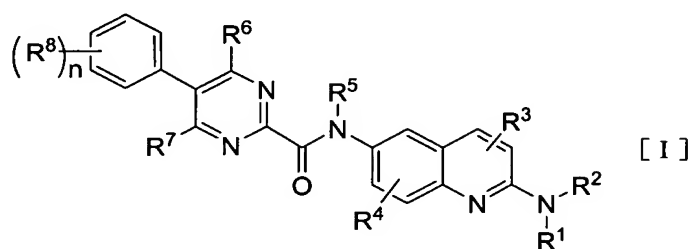
## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims

Claims 1-13. (canceled)

Claim 14. (new) A compound of general formula [I]:



wherein:

$R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each independently selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) optionally hydroxyl- or halogen-substituted lower alkyl,
- (2) optionally  $R^9$ -substituted 3 to 6-membered cycloalkyl, and
- (3) optionally  $R^9$ -substituted 4 to 6-membered heterocycloalkyl, or
- (4)  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  together form a 4 to 11-membered crosslinking, non-crosslinking or spiro ring aliphatic nitrogen-containing heterocycle, with the nitrogen atom to which they bind, one or two optional hydrogen atoms in the aliphatic nitrogen-containing heterocycle being optionally substituted with  $R^9$ ;

$R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  are each independently selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) hydroxyl,
- (3) halogen, and
- (4) optionally halogen-substituted lower alkyl;

$R^5$  stands for:

- (1) hydrogen, or
- (2) optionally halogen-substituted lower alkyl;

each  $R^8$  is independently selected from the group consisting of:

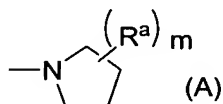
- (1) halogen,
- (2) lower alkyl, and
- (3) lower alkyloxy;

$R^9$  is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, amino, mono-lower alkylamino, di-lower alkylamino, optionally hydroxyl- or halogen-substituted lower alkyl, (lower alkyloxycarbonyl)amino, lower alkyloxycarbonyl- (lower alkyl)amino, lower alkylcarbonylamino, lower alkylcarbonyl(lower alkyl)amino, mono-lower alkylcarbamoyl- (lower alkyl)amino, di-lower alkylcarbamoyl(lower alkyl)amino, lower alkylsulfonylamino, lower alkylsulfonyl(lower alkyl)amino, oxo and 2-oxopyrrolidinyl; and  
 $n$  is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 15. (new) The compound according to Claim 14, wherein:  $R^1$  is lower alkyl, and  $R^2$  is selected from the group consisting of optionally hydroxyl-substituted lower alkyl, tetrahydrofuranyl and optionally  $R^9$ -substituted pyrrolidinyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

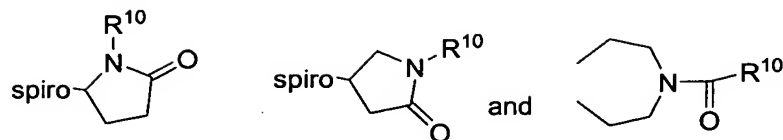
Claim 16. (new) The compound according to Claim 14, wherein: the 4 to 11-membered crosslinking, non-crosslinking or spiro ring aliphatic nitrogen-containing heterocycle formed by  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  together with the nitrogen atom to which they bind is represented by a formula (A):



wherein  $R^a$  is  $R^9$  or two  $R^a$ 's together form  $-(CH_2)_x-(NH)-(CH_2)_y-$ , hydrogen in the substituent group may optionally be substituted with lower alkyl, lower alkylcarbonyl or oxo,  $x$  and  $y$  are each independently selected from 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that  $3 \leq x + y \leq 4$ , and  $m$  is selected from 0, 1 or 2; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 17. (new) The compound according to Claim 16, wherein:  
 $R^a$  is selected from the group consisting of lower alkylcarbonyl(lower alkyl)amino, lower alkylsulfonyl(lower alkyl)amino, lower alkyloxycarbonyl(lower alkyl)amino, and di-lower alkylcarbamoyl(lower alkyl)amino, and  
 $m=1$ ;  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 18. (new) The compound according to Claim 16, wherein:  $m=2$ , and the two  $R^a$ 's together form a group selected from the group consisting of:



wherein:  $R^{10}$  is selected from lower alkyl and lower alkylcarbonyl;  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 19. (new) The compound according to Claim 16, wherein: the aliphatic nitrogen-containing heterocycle represented by the formula (A) is selected from the group consisting of:

1-methyl-2-oxo-1,7-diazaspiro[4.4]nonan-7-yl, 7-methyl-8-oxo-2,7-diazaspiro[4.4]nonan-2-yl, 3-[acetyl(methyl)amino]pyrrolidin-1-yl, 3-[propionyl(methyl)amino]pyrrolidin-1-yl, 3-[isobutyryl(methyl)-amino]pyrrolidin-1-yl, 3-[methanesulfonyl(methyl)amino]pyrrolidin-1-yl, 3-[methoxycarbonyl(methyl) amino]pyrrolidin-1-yl, 3-[[dimethylamino]carbonyl(methyl)amino]pyrrolidin-1-yl, 6-acetyldecahydro-pyrrolo[3,4-d]azepin-2-yl, and 2-oxo[1.3']bipyrrolidinyl-1'-yl;  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 20. (new) The compound according to Claim 14, wherein:  $R^8$  is a fluorine atom or a methoxy group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 21. (new) The compound according to Claim 14, wherein: selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-[2-(1-methyl-2-oxo-1,7-diazaspiro[4,4]nonan-7-yl)-6-quinoliny]-2-pyrimidinecarboxamide,
- (2) 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-[2-(7-methyl-8-oxo-2,7-diazaspiro[4,4]-nonan-2-yl)-6-quinoliny]-2-pyrimidinecarboxamide,
- (3) N-(2-[(3R)-3-[isobutyryl(methyl)amino]-1-pyrrolidinyl]-6-quinoliny)-5-phenyl-2-pyrimidine carboxamide,
- (4) N-[2-(6-acetyldecahydropyrrolo[3,4-d]azepin-2-yl)-6-quinoliny]-5-phenyl-2-pyrimidine carboxamide,
- (5) N-[2-[(3R)-3-[acetyl(methyl)amino]-1-pyrrolidinyl]-6-quinoliny]-5-phenyl-2-pyrimidine carboxamide,
- (6) 5-phenyl-N-(2-[(3R)-3-[propionyl(methyl)amino]-1-pyrrolidinyl]-6-quinoliny)-2-pyrimidine carboxamide,

- (7) N-(2-[(3R)-3-[methanesulfonyl(methyl)amino]-1-pyrrolidinyl]-6-quinolinyl)-5-phenyl-2-pyrimidinecarboxamide,
  - (8) N-(2-[(3R)-3-[methoxycarbonyl(methyl)amino]-1-pyrrolidinyl]-6-quinolinyl)-5-phenyl-2-pyrimidinecarboxamide,
  - (9) N-(2-[(3R)-3-[[dimethylamino]carbonyl](methyl)amino]-1-pyrrolidinyl]-6-quinolinyl)-5-phenyl-2-pyrimidinecarboxamide,
  - (10) N-(2-[isopropyl(methyl)amino]-6-quinolinyl)-5-phenyl-2-pyrimidinecarboxamide,
  - (11) 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-(2-[(3R)-3-[isobutyryl(methyl)amino]-1-pyrrolidinyl]-6-quinolinyl)-2-pyrimidinecarboxamide,
  - (12) N-(2-[(3R)-3-[acetyl(methyl)amino]-1-pyrrolidinyl]-6-quinolinyl)-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-pyrimidine carboxamide,
  - (13) 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-(2-[methyl(tetrahydro-3-furanyl)amino]-6-quinolinyl)-2-pyrimidine carboxamide and
  - (14) 5-(3-fluorophenyl)-N-(2-[(3R)-3-[isobutyryl(methyl)amino]-1-pyrrolidinyl]-6-quinolinyl)-2-pyrimidine carboxamide,
- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 22. (new) A method of antagonizing the melanin concentrating hormone receptor in a subject in need of such antagonism comprising administering to the subject 0.01 – 400 mg per day of a compound according to Claim 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 23. (new) A method of preventing or treating a condition selected from: metabolic disorders, cardiovascular disorders, central nervous system or peripheral nervous system disorders, reproductive disorders, digestive disorders, respiratory disorders, cancer, and pigmentation, comprising administration to a person in need of such prevention or treatment of an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

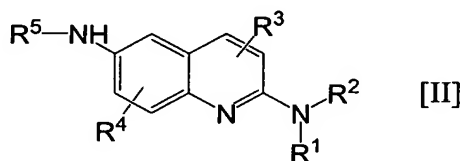
Claim 24. (new) The method according to Claim 23, wherein:  
metabolic disorders are selected from: obesity, diabetes, hormone disorder, hyperlipidemia, gout, fatty liver, hepatitis and cirrhosis;  
cardiovascular disorders are selected from: stenocardia, acute or congestive heart failure, myocardial infarction, coronary atherosclerosis, hypertension, renal diseases and electrolyte abnormality;  
central nervous system or peripheral nervous system disorders are selected from: bulimia, emotional disturbance, depression, anxiety, epilepsy, delirium, dementia, schizophrenia, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, memory impairment, sleep disorders, cognitive failure, dyskinesia, paresthesias, smell disorders, morphine tolerance, drug dependence and alcoholism; and  
reproductive disorders are selected from: infertility, preterm labor and sexual dysfunction.

Claim 25. (new) A method for treating obesity in a human subject in need of such treatment comprising administering to the human subject of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

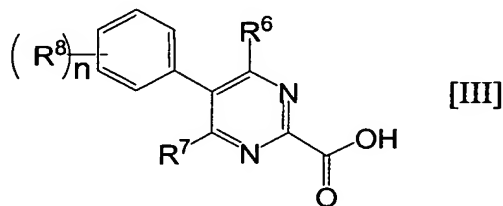
Claim 26. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 27. (new) A process for preparing the compound of general formula [I] of Claim 14, wherein:  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$ ,  $R^8$  and  $n$  have the same significations as given in Claim 14,

which comprises the step of subjecting a compound of a general formula [II]:



wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are as defined in Claim 14;  
and a compound of a general formula [III]



wherein  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$ ,  $R^8$  and  $n$  are as defined in Claim 14;  
to an amidation reaction.